



# News Release

## IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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### **NEEM MANUFACTURED HOMES ARE STILL A GOOD INVESTMENT**

**For Immediate Release**  
**Boise, Idaho – March 17, 2004**

**For Media Information:**  
**Bob Minter, 208-327-7970**

Four Idaho companies received achievement awards during the manufactured home industry's regional home show in Salem, Ore., on March 2-7.

The awards recognize the top manufacturers and retailers of manufactured homes built during 2003 under the Northwest Energy Efficient Manufactured Home (NEEM<sup>™</sup>) marketing program in Idaho as well as other participating Northwest states.

Champion Homes of Weiser received both manufacturing awards for producing the highest percentage of energy-efficient homes in Idaho and producing the highest number of NEEM Program homes. Champion Homes received both awards during 2003 as well.

The 2004 awards for top retailer sales of energy-efficient manufactured homes in Idaho were presented to Ranch Manufactured Homes, Idaho Falls, gold; Hathaway's, Inc, St Anthony, silver; and Peter's Homes, Post Falls, bronze. All three retailers have been NEEM program partners with the Energy Division for many years and are among Idaho's top manufactured home retailers.

NEEM is a cooperative effort between the region's manufactured home industry and the region's state energy offices. The program involves inspecting and certifying homes built to the higher Super Good Cents and Energy Star<sup>®</sup> standards.

"These are the most energy-efficient manufactured homes offered by the industry in the nation," says Bob Minter, senior energy specialist with the Energy Division and Idaho's NEEM program manager.

"More than 130,000 of these energy option upgraded homes have been produced under the program, resulting in lower utility bills and more comfort for the home buyers. It's a very successful cooperative program and a win-win for the entire region."

(MORE)

Homes constructed to meet the NEEM standards typically use about 30 percent less energy to heat and cool compared to those built to the minimum standards required by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD). More than 60 Northwest utilities offer cash incentives to homebuyers who purchase NEEM Program homes.

The regional awards were sponsored by the Idaho Energy Division, Washington State University Energy Program, Oregon Department of Energy, and the Building America Industrialized Housing Partnership.

For more information about the NEEM program consumers should contact the program's regional Hotline at 1-888-355-6277.

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